

## LINCOLNIANA

BY

FRANK J. WILLIAMS

### Introduction

Decades ago, historian James G. Randall asked the question “Has the Lincoln theme been exhausted?” It is clear that from the avalanche of books, articles, events and the use and misuse of Abraham Lincoln that the answer is a resounding “No.”

For many years I have written “Lincolniana,” a survey of Lincoln doings for *The Lincoln Herald*, a quarterly magazine published by The Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum of Lincoln Memorial University, in Harrogate, TN as well as an annual “Lincolniana” for *Lincoln Lore*, the bulletin of The Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne, IN.

At a recent meeting of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, members suggested that my Lincolniana also appear on the ALBC website. So, with that encouragement and endorsement, here is my recent survey submitted to *Lincoln Herald*. You can reach the *Lincoln Herald* website at [www.lincolnherald.com](http://www.lincolnherald.com). The Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum at Lincoln Memorial University can be reached at <http://www.lmunet.edu/Museum/index.htm>.

As “Lincolniana” demonstrates, every generation reinvents Lincoln in its own image. He has been variously described as a consummate moralist and a shrewd political operator, a life-long enemy of slavery and an inveterate racist. The most recent full-scale biography, by David Donald, published in 1995, offered a Lincoln buffeted by forces outside his control, a man of deep convictions who failed to lead public opinion. Yet, Lincoln’s life and actions belie this characterization. What this survey demonstrates, I believe, is a portrayal of Lincoln’s political courage. First, he was clear and self-confident in his beliefs. While he made mistakes, they were not mistakes of self-doubt. For this kind of political courage, Lincoln had to remain steady amid a barrage of criticism. Second, he knew his own mind. Lincoln said, “I desire so to conduct the affairs of

this administration that if at the end, when I come to lay down the reins of power, I have lost every other friend on earth, I shall at least have one friend left, and that friend shall be down inside me.” Third, Lincoln was obsessed with character. During this sesquicentennial of the infamous Kansas-Nebraska Act. It is appropriate to remember that Lincoln spoke forcefully against the expansion of slavery which Senator Stephen A. Douglas’s “popular sovereignty” encouraged. Finally, Lincoln was most alive in the midst of the fray. Theodore Roosevelt once declared, “Aggressive fighting for the right is the noblest sport the world affords.” While Lincoln abhorred the Civil War, he carried out his duties as Chief Magistrate and Commander-In-Chief with relish.

A continued interest in and study of Abraham Lincoln warns us that the question confronting our nation today is who really has courage, who really has resolve.

I hope you enjoy this compendium which, while exhaustive, is not intended to be complete. Any views expressed are not necessarily those of the author or of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

#### The Spoken Word and Lincoln Group Activities

**Ronald White** presented “Abraham Lincoln’s ‘Meditation on the Divine Will’” at the **National Presbyterian Church**, Washington, DC, on January 11, “Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln’s Journey to Emancipation” at **Lawrence University**, Appleton, WI on January 22, “The Prophetic Voice of Abraham Lincoln” at **Eckerd College**, St. Petersburg, FL on February 12, “Abraham Lincoln and Black Freedom” at **Glendale College**, Glendale, CA on February 23, and “Lincoln’s Greatest Speech: The Second Inaugural” at **Princeton Theological Seminary** on May 20.

On March 27, **Mark E. Neely, Jr.** spoke about “The Fate of Civil Liberties in the Confederacy and the Union” at **The Museum of the Confederacy** as part of the **26<sup>th</sup> Annual Evening Series Lectures**, *“The Hard Hand of War” Explorations into the Treatment of Civilians and Prisoners in the Civil War*. On March 17, **Mark Grimsley** discussed “Union Military Policy Toward Southern Civilians” and on March 31, **James M. Gillispie** and **Mauriel Joslyn** discussed “The Treatment of Prisoners.”

**Ralph Gary**, has made a number of speeches to groups in Fort Worth on “Lincoln as the Father of the Nation” during April, including the **Service Core of**

**Retired Executives, Retired Teachers of Tarrant County Community Colleges, and Trinity Terrace Community Center.**

I presented “Abraham Lincoln and Civil Liberties” to the **Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia** on April 20.

**Edward Steers, Jr.** spoke at the **West Virginia Community Education Outreach Service Regional Meeting** in Berkeley Springs, WV on April 17. His topic was “Abraham Lincoln, an American Icon.” On May 25 Steers spoke to the **Woman’s Mill (MD) Library Book Club** about his book, *Blood on the Moon* and at the **Morgan County (WV) Fair** on July 31 where he presented “Abraham Lincoln’s Place in American Culture.”

The annual meeting of the **Friends of The Lincoln Museum** was held on May 10. **Paul Helmke** presented, “Let the Parties Begin: Politics Then and Now.”

**Bruce Tap** spoke on “The Committee on the Conduct of The War: Its Origins, Assumptions, and Significance” at the May 14 meeting of **the Civil War Round Table** (Chicago).

**Harold Holzer** discussed his *Lincoln at Cooper Union* at **Robert Todd Lincoln’s Hildene** on May 30, **Olsson’s – Arlington/Bookstore** on June 7, the **National Archives** on June 8, and at **The Lincoln Group of Boston** at **Brown University** on June 12. On June 6, **Holzer** was the guest on **C-SPAN-2, Book-TV** for a live, three hour profile, interview, and call-in show, *In Depth*. He was the guest speaker at the October 3 meeting of the **Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin**. **George Buss**, interpreting Lincoln, also made an appearance.

**Richard McMurry** presented “A New Framework for Civil War History” before the **Northern Illinois Civil War Round Table** and the **Salt Creek Civil War Round Table** on June 4.

**Thomas F. Schwartz** presented “Douglas and Lincoln in the Race of Politics and Life” at the June 5 meeting of the **Stephen A. Douglas Association**.

**Wayne C. Temple** spoke on June 6 at Pittsfield, Illinois’s **Lincoln Days 2004** about “The Taste is in my Mouth a Little. . . .”

**Roger Williams University** with **The Lincoln Forum** and **The Lincoln Group of Boston** hosted *Abraham Lincoln and the Kansas-Nebraska Act: A Sesquicentennial Symposium* at **Roger Williams University**, Bristol, RI, June 25-

26. As the keynote speaker, I presented, “Abraham Lincoln Responds to the Kansas-Nebraska Act.” Other presentations included, ““The Spirit of Seventy-Six and the Spirit of Nebraska Are Utter Antagonisms’: Abraham Lincoln, The Territorial Issue, and the Revolutionary Heritage,” by **Michael Morrison**; “Abraham Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas, and the Mormons,” by **John Y. Simon**; “Bleeding Kansas, Bleeding Sumner,” by **Thomas Turner**; “Confronting Slavery/Avoiding Race: Abraham Lincoln’s Address at Peoria, Illinois,” by **James Tackach**; “The Old Truths: Frederick Douglass’s Critique of Neutral Opinion,” by **Granville Ganter**; “European Reactions to American Events of 1854,” by **David Quigley**; and “The Kansas-Nebraska Act and the Teaching of History,” by **Kenneth Osborne**. **Adam Braver** read a chapter from his *Mr. Lincoln’s Wars*.

**The Lincoln-Douglas Society**, Freeport, IL, celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the unveiling of the statue *Lincoln the Debater* in Freeport’s **Taylor Park**. The Society held its annual commemorative ceremony at this site on August 27. The Society’s annual dinner and program was held later that day with **Jim Edstrom** as guest speaker.

The August *Smithsonian Associate* announced that D.C. prosecutor and historian **Bernie Siler** would lead a tour exploring less familiar sites associated with the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. The tour was conducted on September 4 with a stop at the site of the former boarding house owned by Mary Surratt where the conspirators met, and continued to **Grover’s National Theatre** (now the **National Theatre**) where Lincoln’s son Tad sat on the night of the assassination. Across the street was the site of **Fletcher’s Livery Stable** where Booth and accomplice David Herold hired horses for their escape. Also on the tour were the former site of the **Kirkwood House** hotel and the home of Secretary of State William H. Seward.

**David Smith** presented “A Few Thoughts on Mr. Lincoln” at the September 2 meeting of **The Lincoln Club of Topeka**.

**The Annual Lincoln Colloquium** was held at **The Lincoln Museum** September 17-18. Lincoln Museum President & CEO **Joan L. Flinspach** welcomed those in attendance. **Harold Holzer** presented “Lincoln at Cooper Union: The Image and the Word;” **Darrel Bigham** presented “From Whig to Republican: What Scholars Have Said About Abraham Lincoln and the Grand Old Party;” **Joseph Fornieri** presented “Lincoln’s Critique of the Dred Scott Decision: Its Enduring Significance;” **Kenneth Winkle** delivered “Citizen Lincoln;” and I moderated a question and discussion session. **Allen Guelzo** delivered the **Twenty-**

**Fifth Annual R. Gerald McMurtry Lecture**, “Emancipation Moment: Lincoln’s Other ‘First of January.’”

**Richard Norton Smith**, Executive Director of the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation**, will be leading a presidential tour of New York’s Hudson Valley in New England of sites associated with eleven American presidents, including Robert Todd Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, and Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt from October 1 to 10. (217) 558-8882.

**The 9<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Forum** will be held in Gettysburg, November 16-18. Former Governor **Mario M. Cuomo** will deliver the keynote. There will be presentations by **Gabor Boritt**, "The Most Important Election of American History?"; **Harold Holzer**, "Lincoln at Cooper Union"; **David E. Long**, "Lincoln and Liberty: The Election of 1860"; **Joseph T. Glatthaar**, "The Dahlgren Raid and the Election of 1864"; **Richard Norton Smith**, "The New Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum"; **Daniel Mark Epstein**, "Abraham Lincoln and Walt Whitman"; **William C. Harris**, "After the Re-election: Lincoln's Final Days"; my "Lincoln and the Soldiers' Vote in 1864" and a panel discussion about “What’s New in Lincoln Books?” moderated by **Harold Holzer**. For registration and other information contact Annette Westerby at [anetwest@earthlink.net](mailto:anetwest@earthlink.net) or access [www.theincolnforum.org](http://www.theincolnforum.org).

#### Lincoln’s International Legacy

**Robert J. Havlik**, “Bram Stoker’s Lecture on Abraham Lincoln” which originally appeared in *Irish Studies Review* (Vol. 10, No. 1, 2002), was reprinted in the Winter 2003 *Lincoln Herald*.

For the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the artist **Norman Rockwell** the **Latin American Nation of Dominica** released a sheet of four stamps. The souvenir sheet shows a section of Rockwell’s painting of America’s sixteenth president done in 1962 titled “Lincoln for the Defense.”

**St. Vincent Grenadines** in February 2004 released a \$1.40 stamp depicting Norman Rockwell’s painting, “The Young Lawyer” illustrating a young man studying with two paintings of Lincoln in his room.

**The International Lincoln Center** was cited in the **March Forum on Contemporary Theory Newsletter** (**University of Baroda**) and the **International Lincoln Association** was cited in the “International Outreach” section of the *Interim Report* to Congress by the **Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission**.

**John M. Taylor's** "Bermuda Counsul Takes on Blockade Runners" appeared in the May 22 *Washington Times*.

The **Abraham Lincoln Cultural Center** showed a photo of the Daniel French seated Abraham Lincoln statue replica that the **International Lincoln Center** at LSU in Shreveport donated during the departure ceremony of the U.S. Ambassador **Marie T. Huhtola** from Kuala Lumpur on May 28 at the end of her three-year term. <http://usembassymalaysia.org.my/>.

One of the most popular blogs in Iraq is written by **Faiza Jarrar** who is an engineer by training. Her July 17 entry dealt with Abraham Lincoln and asks the question if the United States has a split personality today. <http://afamilyinbaghdad.blogspot.com>.

**Jorge Abel Fernandez**, the new Mayor of Lincoln, Argentina, invited **Dr. William Pederson**, Director of the **International Lincoln Center at LSU in Shreveport**, to the annual celebration of the city's founding on July 19. The miniature replica of the **Lincoln Memorial** which was on exhibit in **City Hall** in **Lincoln, Argentina** since 1999 when it was donated by the **International Lincoln Association**, has been moved to the **Enrique A. Urcola Museum**.

After 21 years in its present location, the **International Lincoln Center** at LSU in Shreveport has moved from the first to third floor of **Bronson Hall** into a much larger office suite – approximately five times larger – allowing for a seminar room and research collection.

A photo of **Romania's Prime Minister Adrian Nastase** with **President George Bush** in the **Oval Office** with a bust of Lincoln in the background appeared in the July 22 issue of the *Washington Times*.

The Summer 2004 catalog from **Mystic Stamp Company** illustrates the 2002 sheet of six mint stamps from **St. Kitts** featuring a painting of Lincoln and historic Civil War railroad engines. It sells for \$7.95 (M6732.G)

While tourists were able to view a new exhibit on "The Cubist Paintings of Diego Rivera" at the **National Gallery of Art** in Washington, D.C. sponsored in collaboration with the **Musco de Arte Moderno**, Mexico City, the annual Washington mini-semester of the **International Lincoln Center** also had the opportunity to see the mural by **Robert Cueva del Rio**, a student of **Rivera**, which features a portrait of Abraham Lincoln, **Benito Juarez**, and other Latin American leaders, at the **Mexican Cultural Center** in D.C.

**Jasuben Shilpi**, often referred to as “the Bronze Woman of India,” was in Skokie, IL on September 28 to unveil her statue of **Mahatma Gandhi**. The **International Lincoln Association** donated a photo of her Lincoln bust to the **International Lincoln Center at LSU in Shreveport** on September 9 where it is on display.

**Patricia Moral**, a professor at **Lincoln College** in **Argentina**, brought her students to view the **Salvador Dali** exhibition and **Malba Museum** in **Buenos Aires**.

**Robert J. Havlik**’s edited “Bram Stroker’s Lecture on Abraham Lincoln (Pt. II)” was reprinted in the Spring 2004 *Lincoln Herald*. The article originally appeared in the *Irish Studies Review*.

## Arts

**Elliot Rosenberg** wrote about the **New York Philharmonic**’s Lincoln concert from April 22 to April 29, 1865 to commemorate Abraham Lincoln who had died two weeks earlier (“Tasteful Conclusion: The Philharmonic’s Lincoln Concert, 1865,” *Daily News*, May 2).

**Ben Brantley** reviewed **Stephen Sondheim**’s *Assassins* in the April 23<sup>rd</sup> *New York Times*. The review makes the point that the musical “does not celebrate its homicidal subjects. Mr. Sondheim and **Mr. [John] Weidman** are simply posing a question that arises in many people’s minds when they read accounts of shocking, irrational crimes: ‘why would someone do that.’” Right after *Assassins*, we are treated to *The Booth Variations* with **Todd Cerveris** playing both Edwin and Junius Booth. Cerveris’s brother, **Michael Cerveris**, who won a Tony Award for his performance as John Wilkes Booth in the Sondheim revival, played John Wilkes Booth in this new production. **Ben Brantley** wrote about it in “Family Affair, Notorious and Historic” for the August 9 *New York Times* and **Erik Piepenburg** reviewed the play in “A John Wilkes Booth for the Video Age” in the August 8 *New York Times*.

**Harold Holzer** and I presented *Ulysses S. Grant: Seen and Heard* at the bi-annual meeting of **The Ulysses S. Grant Association** in Washington on April 23. Holzer and actor **Richard Dreyfuss**, as Grant, presented this at “**The Egg**,” The Performing Arts Center, before a select crowd of 950 in Albany, NY on April 26. Their event was for the benefit of the **New York State Archives**.

**C-SPAN** broadcast **Sam Waterston's** extraordinary performance as Abraham Lincoln delivering the **Cooper Union** address at **Cooper Institute** on May 23. **Glenn Collins** wrote about actor **Sam Waterston's** recreation of Abraham Lincoln's one hour and ten minute **Cooper Union** speech in *The New York Times* on May 4. Lincoln's February 27, 1860 speech made him a viable candidate for the presidency.

**Kelsie Wilson**, a junior at **Virden High School**, IL, used bread, foil and a torch to create a portrait of President Lincoln. She tells us how she did it.

I wanted to do something different and wanted to use some other media besides the normal paint, chalk, pencil and paper. I was challenged by my art teacher, Ms. Lori Leytem, to do something with toast.

I chose President Lincoln because he has very distinguished facial features, and to be honest, I wanted people to easily recognize the final project, because I really didn't think it was going to turn out as well as it did.

I dried the bread for about three weeks, which caused it to shrink about an inch per piece. I used a small torch to "shade" each piece of bread. For some of the pieces, I wrapped foil around the bread to protect it from unwanted shading and to get more distinct edges. Then, each piece was soaked from the back with polyurethane twice, and the front was coated with a thin layer also, to preserve the project.

This project took approximately two weeks to create the image and another week to coat the toast.

I used silicone adhesive to attach it to the back of the frame.

I don't have any set plans for the project, except to enter it into the annual Virden Fine Arts Festival next year. It would be great for it to be displayed in Springfield for others to enjoy and to give an unusual tribute to President Lincoln.



If anyone would like to display the piece or has a suggestion for exhibiting it, they can contact Virden High School.

*The State Journal-Register*, May 25, 2004.

The original of **Rebecca Childers Caleel's** sculpture *Lincoln and Son* was presented to the **Oak Brook Public Library** (IL) on June 1.

A life-sized bronze sculpture of Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln and their sons, Robert and Willie, were unveiled on June 5 at the **Old Capitol Plaza** in Springfield. The piece shows Lincoln on his way from his law office to the Old State Capitol to deliver a speech and pausing while his wife Mary adjusts his clothes. Willie is waving goodbye to his brother Robert. The \$210,000 sculpture will be the highlight of a series of more than thirty outdoor exhibits which is part of the program called "Here I Have Lived." **Sunderine Temple** posed for the Mrs. Lincoln statue in her 1850's costume and hat.

**The Yoh Theatre Players** presented Woodstock's (VT) *Civil War: A Speakchorus* on June 10 at the **Woodstock Town Hall Theatre**. Students from **Woodstock Union High School** gave voice to the letters, diaries, and songs of Woodstock's home front during the Civil War.

**Brian Lamb**, President and CEO of **C-SPAN**, discussed the presidential assassinations of Abraham Lincoln, James Garfield, and William McKinley with **Ed Steers**, **Ken Ackerman**, and **Eric Rauchway** on **C-SPAN 2** on Saturday June 12 at 10:00 p.m. and again on Sunday, June 13 at 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

**The History Channel** broadcast *Lincoln: Man or Myth?* on June 21. Scholars and historians **Harold Holzer**, **Phillip Paludan**, **Lerone Bennett, Jr.**, **Michael Burlingame** and I discussed how Lincoln became a myth, whether or not he was really the Great Emancipator, and whether the President actually wrote the great condolence letter to Lydia Bixby, among other issues.

Sculptor **John McClarey** has completed or is at work on different stages of three Lincoln statuary projects – *Vision for a Greater Illinois* for the **Macon County Historical Society Prairie Village** in Decatur, IL, which was dedicated on September 4; *Last Stop* for the **Christian County Courthouse** in Taylorville, IL, which will be dedicated Memorial Day 2005; and *A Greater Task* for the

**Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**, Springfield, IL, which while completed, awaits completion of the museum.

The names of fifty-one soldiers from Dorchester and Milton, MA who are among 620,000 men who died in the Civil War were memorialized on a plaque at the **Wesley Methodist Church**. The church, demolished and re-built on-site in 1967, removed the plaque and it was found more than three decades later on Cape Cod. The church will rededicated the plaque on September 26 with an Abraham Lincoln interpreter (**Dorchester Historical Society**, 195 Boston Street, Dorchester 02125).

Artist **Wendy Allen** has published a new catalog of her Lincoln prints (60 Old Northville Road, New Milford, CT 06776).

**Bruce Chadwick**, author of *The Reel Civil War* believes *Young Mr. Lincoln* and *Abe Lincoln in Illinois* are among the ten greatest movies about the Civil War in the August-September *American Heritage*. While these were listed in fifth place, *Glory* was in first place.

**Will Munyon and Sons** is selling an edition of 1,000 signed and numbered lost-wax museum quality bronze restrike sculptures of **George E. Bissell's** *The Great Emancipator* for \$798 (800-289-2850). [www.willmunyonandsons.com]

**Toypresidents Inc.** (281-977-2320) has created "talking action figures" of some of the presidents including Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy, Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush. Each figure delivers 25 authentic phrases and includes a biographical pamphlet and historical timeline.

**Megan Hardgrave** of **Profiles in Chocolate**, 1846 Rosemeade Pkwy. #297, Carolton, TX 75007, is producing profiles of the presidents in chocolate. Her Lincoln profile is packaged in a jewel CD case with a mini biography of Lincoln on the back of the insert.

**Mystic Stamp** in its summer *Showcase*, advertised a block of 5-cent 1908 Lincoln stamps in very-fine condition for \$5,350.

## Exhibits

**The Surratt House** has prepared an exhibit, *Getting Out the Vote: The Political Scene in the 1800s* that will run through November 28. This special

exhibit of political memorabilia from the 19<sup>th</sup> century was drawn from the private collection of **Steve Ackerman**.

**Hildene**, the home of Robert Todd Lincoln, in Manchester, VT opened its exhibit, *Vermont and the North Shire in the Civil War: The Common Experience of Uncommon Valour* on June 1.

**Randy Kennedy** wrote “Journals of Two Former Slaves Draw Vivid Portraits” in the June 14 *New York Times*. The journals of John Washington and Wallace Turnage, former slaves, have surfaced and came to the attention of **David W. Blight** at **Yale University**. They speak to the debate as to what extent did Lincoln emancipate the slaves and to what degree did they emancipate themselves during the war? Mr. Washington and Mr. Turnage liberated themselves during the war, stealing away from their masters by rowboat, at great risk. But both were protected by the Union army, without whose help they might have been recaptured. “What these narrators demonstrate in authentic and rich detail is that slaves became free by both means,” Dr. Blight said. Excerpts of the journals appeared with an Introduction by Mr. Kennedy in the *Times* of June 30.

**Michael Fowler** with **Gary Chassman** are preparing for a major museum exhibition with a companion publication entitled *Portraying Lincoln: Man of Many Faces* to open in 2007 and then traveling throughout the United States and ending during the Lincoln bicentennial year in 2009. The exhibition is intended to demonstrate through art works, the many responses that the life and legacy of Abraham Lincoln have engendered.

**Deepti Hajela**, for *Associate Press*, wrote “Political Paraphernalia.” Her syndicated story appeared in the July 28 *Providence Journal* and described the **New-York Historical Society** exhibit, “*If Elected: Campaigning for the Presidency*.” The exhibit included a handkerchief showing the likeness of Abraham Lincoln.

#### Collections

**Daniel Weinberg** of **The Abraham Lincoln Book Shop**, Chicago, has restored one of four known Blackhawk War discharges signed by “A. Lincoln” as Captain.

Nearly one thousand people gathered at the **Lincoln Shrine**, Redlands, California, for its annual open house on February 8.

The train depot in Peekskill, NY where Abraham Lincoln spoke on his way to his inauguration is going to be preserved and restored for use as a museum. **Mayor John Testa**, President of the **Lincoln Society in Peekskill** announced the efforts to transform a storage facility to its original use as a depot. When Lincoln stopped at Peekskill on February 19, 1861 he was recorded as saying, “I will say in a single sentence, in regard to the difficulties which lie before me and our beloved country, that if I can only be as generously and unanimously sustained as the demonstrations I have witnessed indicate I shall be, I shall not fail. But without your sustaining hands, I am sure that neither I nor any other man, can hope to surmount these difficulties.”

**Sarah Antonacci** wrote about further delay in the completion of the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**, Springfield, IL because of a recently discovered problem with the building’s vapor barrier that will cost \$500,000 to repair (“New Problem Delays Library”) the *State Journal-Register*, May 4. **Sarah Antonacci** reported, on July 2, in the *Illinois State Journal-Register* that the **Illinois State Capital Development Board** signed off on the \$22.5 million **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**. Repairs involving condensation around windows and the building’s vapor barrier as well as HVAC problems were completed by June 17. The **Illinois Historic Preservation Agency** has moved the library into the new facility. The Museum is expected to open in April 2005. **U.S. Senator Dick Durbin**, a longtime supporter of the library and museum, indicated to **Bernard Schoenburg** that he was concerned that Springfield be ready for the expected crush of visitors to the site. Schoenburg is the political writer for the *Illinois State Journal-Register*. The exhibit areas inside the museum are beginning to take shape. One exhibit includes a replica log cabin, in which Lincoln lived during his formative years before moving from Kentucky. It is being constructed of logs from a circa-1800s cabin from Virginia.

**Pete Sherman** wrote about the lack of meetings of the advisory board, appointed by former **Governor George Ryan**. Ryan’s successor, **Governor Rod Blagojevich**, created a new foundation headed by former **Governor Jim Edgar**. One advisory board member indicated that, “there’s an intricate network of things going on” (*Illinois State Journal-Register*, June 23, 2004).

**The Friends of the Lincoln Museum, Inc.** distributed its **2003 Annual Report** reflecting on the 75-year history of **The Lincoln Museum**. Attendance has grown from a few hundred Lincoln financial group employees and their guests to nearly 50,000 per year.

The Winter/Spring *Rail Splitter* contained **Michael Schulman’s** “Given In the Roman Tradition: Lincoln and the Indian Peace Medals,” **Nancy Rosin’s**

“Valentines and Romance in the Civil War: A Collector’s Journey and **Norman F. Boas’s** “William Franklin Berry, Abraham Lincoln’s Business Partner in New Salem, Illinois.”

**Mary Jo Murphy’s** article, “Autograph Hunters With History, Not Celebrity, in Mind,” describes the ever increasing prices of historical documents and profiles, in part, Lincoln dealer and collector, **Daniel R. Weinberg**, was in the July 4 *The New York Times*.

The **Forbes House Museum**, Milton, MA, received a \$10,000 grant from **The Tomfohrde Foundation** to restore its historic Lincoln Log Cabin. This is a challenge grant where the funds will be received if donors match them (**Forbes House Museum--Cabin Preservation**, 215 Adams Street, Milton, MA 02186).

**Lisa Kernek’s** “New letter by Lincoln uncovered: Sheds light on evolution of his stand on slavery” reported in the July 16 *The State Journal-Register* that **Daniel Weinberg**, owner of the **Abraham Lincoln Book Shop** in Chicago is selling a newly discovered letter in which Lincoln argued that the Republican Party should strengthen its anti-slavery stance. **Harold Holzer**, who obtained a copy of the letter, and discussed it at the **Highland Park Public Library**, IL on July 8, commented, “It’s a great statement of his seriousness on the slavery issue.” In his 1859 letter to an Ohio congressman, Lincoln asks, “Do you understand me as saying Illinois must have an extreme anti-slavery candidate? I do not so mean. We must have, though, a man who recognizes the slavery issue as being the living issue of the day; who does not hesitate to declare slavery a wrong, nor to deal with it as such.”

**Dave Bakke** discussed the return of Lincoln-era photos to Springfield, IL, in “Homeward bound.” (*State Journal-Register*, July 17, 2004). **Diane Schaefer** brought 15 photographs, by **Frederick Ingmire**, her great-great-grandfather, who had a photography studio in Springfield, including some never-before seen images taken by Ingmire in Springfield on the day of Lincoln’s funeral. They include the Lincoln home decked out in mourning bunting and Lincoln’s coffin next to Willie’s at **Oak Ridge Cemetery**. Ingmire’s photograph of the Lincolns’ dog, Fido, is his most famous and **Diane Schaefer** brought 3 more pictures of Fido, taken at the same time.

After a 5-year struggle to house the 7,000-pound presidential heads at **Presidents Park** near Williamsburg, Virginia, the park opened in March with the giant heads of 42 presidents. **Karen Brulliard** described the park in the July 19 *Washington Post*.

**Fred McCaffrey** described the **Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum** of Philadelphia in the July 31 *Washington Times*.

**Lisa Kernek**, in the July 31 *State Journal-Register* (Springfield, IL), reported that the Town of Winchester, located about 50 miles from Springfield, is hoping that the opening of the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum** in Springfield will bring tourists to Winchester. The town boasts ties to Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas including a Douglas statue of and plaques around the town marking historic sites – one of which is the location of **Aiken Tavern** where Lincoln stayed in 1854. Another plaque marks the site of the school where Stephen Douglas taught when he moved there from Vermont in the 1830s. A larger-than-life statue of Douglas sits in the center of the square.

**ebay** listed a purported Civil War daguerreotype of “Abraham & Mary Todd Lincoln” with a starting bid of \$50 million despite letters from Lincoln authorities doubting its authenticity. Abraham and Mary Lincoln were never photographed together.

On August 18, **Associated Press** reported that **Tom Heyser** of Maryland, whose parents were housekeepers for President Lincoln’s son, Robert, donated a briefcase called a portfolio, used by Lincoln, and a dress worn by Mary Todd Lincoln to the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**. **Richard Norton Smith**, the Library and Museum’s Director, said that, “Other than the celebrated stovepipe hat, probably no other object has closer association with the Lincoln story than this portfolio.” The briefcase is stamped with the President’s name in gold leaf.

The summer issue of *Capital Investment*, a newsletter of the **University of Illinois Foundation**, reported that **Peter Neumann** donated a mosaic portrait of Abraham Lincoln created by his mother, artist **Elsa Schmid**, to the **University of Illinois** at Springfield. Schmid was a mosaic artist whose works are in the collections of many museums, including the **Museum of Modern Art** in New York City, the **Baltimore Museum of Art**, and the **Fogg Art Museum**. She completed the Lincoln work in 1945 from an original Mathew Brady daguerreotype of the President in profile. It was one of a series of three portraits, two of Lincoln and one of Einstein.

Abraham Lincoln Online

**Edward Steers, Jr.** has rebuilt the **Lincoln Herald** website. The new URL is: [lincolnherald.com](http://lincolnherald.com).

On May 17, *History News Network* published **Jason Emerson's** "It's About Time Lincoln Got a Presidential Library."  
[<http://hnn.us/articles/printfriendly/4897.html>]

The **U.S. Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission** met in the Lyndon Baines Johnston Room of the **U.S. Capitol** on June 7 to review its Interim Report due the **Congress** pursuant to the enabling legislation that created the Commission. The Interim Report was submitted to Congress on June 24 outlining plans and activities for the celebration of the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth in 2009. Copies of the report can be found at the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission web site [www.lincolnbicentennial.gov](http://www.lincolnbicentennial.gov).

#### Awards and Prizes

The **Stephen A. Douglas Association** presented the association's first **Brooks and Betsy Davis Achievement Award** to Brooks Davis at its meeting in June 2003.

The Lincoln Museum received the **2003 Milestone Award** by the **Indiana Terrorism Council**.

The winning **2003 Platt Family Lincoln Forum Essay Contest** by **John Bellocchio** of **Seton Hall University** was distributed to all members of **The Lincoln Forum** with the May *Lincoln Forum Bulletin*.

**The Platt Family Lincoln Forum Scholarship** has announced the theme for this year's \$1,000 award. The assignment is to compare Lincoln's 1864 campaign with other wartime elections. The deadline for submissions is July 31 ([thelincolinforum.org](http://thelincolinforum.org)). A blurb about the scholarship appeared in the April 12 *Newsweek*.

**Lonnie G. Bunch, III**, President of the **Chicago Historical Society** delivered the **Lincoln College** Commencement address on May 15, he, **Michael F. Bishop**, Executive Director of the **U.S. Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission**, **Gabor S. Boritt**, Director of the **Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College**, and **Jack D. Nutt**, President of **Lincoln College** for over 20 years, received Honorary Degrees.

On May 18, **Velma Cherwek**, former Corresponding Secretary of **The Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia** received its annual **Lincoln Award**.

The **Illinois State Historical Society** awarded the **Lincoln Surveyor Statue Project** with its “**Special Projects**” award for organizing and executing the new statue at New Salem commemorating Lincoln’s survey as deputy county surveyor for Sangamon County.

### Auctions

The **Ninth Annual Lincolniana and Civil War Auction** by **The Rail Splitter** was held on June 10.

### Books and Pamphlets

**Joseph R. Fornieri** is the editor of *The Language of Liberty: The Political Speeches and Writings of Abraham Lincoln* (**Eagle Publishing**).

**Tony Wolk** is the author of *Abraham Lincoln: A Novel Life* (**Ooligan Press**, Portland State University, Portland OR).

**Michael Green** is author of *Freedom, Union, Power: Lincoln and His Party in the Civil War* (**Fordham University Press**).

*The Lincoln-Douglas Debates: The First Complete, Unexpurgated Text*, edited and with a new Introduction by **Harold Holzer** has been re-published by **Fordham University Press**.

**Paul Finkelman** wrote “Abraham Lincoln: Prairie Lawyer” and **John A. Lupton** provided “Selected Cases of A. Lincoln, Esquire, Attorney and Counselor-at-Law for America’s Lawyer-Presidents: From Law Office to Oval Office.” **Norman Gross** is editor (**Northwestern**).

**V. Neil Wyrick** is the author of *The Spiritual Abraham Lincoln* **Magnus Press** (Box 2666, Carlsbad, CA 92018).

The *New York Times* has reprinted its *Pictorial Lincoln History*, originally published on February 9, 1913, with a new introduction by **Harold Holzer**, “How Lincoln Coped with his Image Problem.” The 16 page insert accompanied a box set of a special 96-page commemorative newspaper, *Lincoln: Original News*



*Coverage from the New York Times.* **David Herbert Donald** and **Harold Holzer** provided introductions.

**Geoffrey Perret**, author of *Lincoln's War: The Untold Story of America's Greatest President as Commander-in-Chief* (**Random House**), demonstrates how the Chief Executive's powerful role as Command-in-Chief – now all but taken for granted – was in Lincoln's era unprecedented and all but revolutionary.

Perret's *Lincoln's War* and *Lincoln at Cooper Union* by **Harold Holzer** (**Simon & Schuster**) were the Summer editors' choice of the **History Book Club**.

**Mario M. Cuomo** has given us *Why Lincoln Matters: Today More Than Ever*. **Harold Holzer** was historical consultant (**Harcourt**).

The *New York Times* has produced *The Most Fearful Ordeal: Original Coverage of the Civil War by Writers and Reporters of The New York Times* with an Introduction and Notes by **Jim M. McPherson** (**St. Martin's Press**).

**Fordham University Press** has re-issued *Lincoln on Democracy*, edited and with a new Introduction by **Mario M. Cuomo** and **Harold Holzer**. The cover art is an original water color by the legendary singer, **Tony Bennett**.

**Northwestern University Press** has published *America's Lawyer – Presidents From Law Office to Oval Office* edited by **Norman Gross** and with a Forward by **Justice Sandra Day O'Connor**.

**Farrar, Straus & Giroux** has published *The Fate of Their Country: Politicians, Slavery Extension, and the Coming of the Civil War* by **Michael F. Holt**.

**Doubleday** has published *What Lincoln Believed: The Values and Convictions of America's Greatest President* by **Michael Lind**.

#### Periodicals

"Civil Liberties in Wartime" by **Geoffrey R. Stone** appeared in the 2003, Volume 28, No. 3 *Journal of Supreme Court History*.

**Norman F. Boas's** "Lincoln and Trumbull: A Lost Anecdote" appeared in the February *Historical Footnotes: Bulletin of the Stonington (CT) Historical Society*.

**Tom O'Brien** wrote "Douglass Shines at Lincoln Statue Unveiling." The author describes the Emancipation Statue, unveiled on April 14, 1876, in **Lincoln Park**, Washington. **Frederick Douglass** was the keynote speaker, addressing why it took Lincoln so long to embrace emancipation and the separate issue of equal rights.

Volume 9 of *The Lincolinator: A Publication of the Louisiana Lincoln Group* has been published (**International Lincoln Center**, LSUS Shreveport, LA 71115-2301).

**The Lincoln-Douglas Society** of Freeport, IL is producing a new semiannual newsletter entitled *The Stump*. Its first issue was published in May (2236 Chelsie Avenue, Freeport, IL 61032).

The Spring 2004 *Lincoln Memorial Association Newsletter* included "Let Them Eat Grass: The Sante Sioux Uprising of 1862" by **Richard A. Hanks**.

The May *Lincoln Forum Bulletin* included a profile of former **Governor Mario M. Cuomo** who will deliver the keynote address at the **IX Lincoln Forum** in Gettysburg November 16-18.

The Summer *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association* contained "Albert J. Beveridge and Demythologizing Lincoln" by **John Braeman**; "Acts of Remembrance: Mary Todd Lincoln and Her Husband's Memory" by **Jennifer L. Bach**; "A More Perfect Tribute" by **Kent Gramm**; and "The Lincoln Landscape, Looking for Lincoln's Philadelphia: A Personal Journey from Washington Square to Independence Hall" by **Bradley R. Hock**.

**Harry V. Jaffa** wrote, "Our Embattled Constitution" for the June *Imprimis* – The National Speech Digest of **Hillsdale College**.

The June *Presidential Studies Quarterly* contained **James E. Underwood's** "Lincoln: A Weberian Politician Meets the Constitution."

The June 17 *Illinois Times* contained **Mikel Weisser's** "Lincoln the poet," where Springfield, Illinois's local poets rate Abraham Lincoln.

"The Challenge of Democracy" by **Douglas N. Paal** were published in the Summer **Sino-American Relations** as "Proceedings of the Lincoln Society of Taipei."

“Discovering the man behind the myth” was in the **Illinois Times** 2004-2005 **Capital City Visitor**.

**Harold Holzer** wrote “Windows on the Civil War at Sea” for the August *United States Naval Institute* journal.

An article about the **Pamplin Historical Park** and the **National Museum of the Civil War Soldier** (“First-person Look at Civil War Strife”) by **W. D. Wetherell** was in the July 4 *The New York Times*.

**Candace Page** wrote about **Hildene**, the home of Robert Todd Lincoln in “Lincoln Legacy: Presidential Connection Only Adds to Retreats Allure” in the July 11 *Burlington Free Press*. A companion story discusses Hildene’s Executive Director, **Seth Bongartz** and Hildene’s plans for growth.

*The Civil War News*, in the July issue, described plans for **Lincoln Forum IX** to be held at Gettysburg on November 16-18.

**Guy Fraker** is the author of *Lincoln in Logan: A special series reprinted from the pages of The Pantograph* (1-800-747-7323).

**John Lockwood** discussed John E. Buckingham, the doorman at Ford’s Theatre and the man who held the door as Lincoln’s body was carried to the Peterson house across the street on April 14 in the August 7 *Washington Times*. **John E. Carey** wrote “Willard Hotel: Elegant landmark in city” for the same issue.

**Richard Lawrence Miller**, who discovered the poem *Contemplating the Subject of Suicide* purportedly by Abraham Lincoln, wrote “What is hell to one like me . . .” for the August-September *American Heritage*.

**Douglas L. Wilson** wrote “Herndon’s Dilemma: Abraham Lincoln and the Privacy Issue” for the Summer *Lincoln Lore*.

**Harry Downs’s** “Conscientious Conservative: Benjamin Robbins Curtis and the Struggle Against Slavery” appeared in *The Supreme Court Historical Society Quarterly* in two parts – Volume XXIV, No. 4, 2003 and Volume XXV, No. 1, 2004.

Books and Pamphlets of Related Interests

**Allan Peskin** is the author of *Winfield Scott and the Profession of Arms* (**Kent State University Press**).

**Fordham University Press** has published *Emma Spaulding Bryant: Civil War Bride, Carpetbagger's Wife, Ardent Feminist – Letters 1860-1900* by **Ruth Douglas Currie**.

**William D. Bader** and **Roy M. Mersky** compiled *The First One Hundred Eight Justices* (**William S. Hein & Co., Inc.**)

**Ambrose Bierce's** *Tales of Soldiers and Civilians* edited by **Donald T. Blume** has been published by **Kent State University Press** along with Blume's companion *Ambrose Bierce's Civilians and Soldiers in Context: A Critical Study*.

*Railroads in the Civil War: The Impact of Management on Victory and Defeat* by **John E. Clark, Jr.** has been published by **Louisiana State University Press**.

**Richard R. Duncan** is the author of *Lee's Endangered Left: The Civil War in Western Virginia, Spring of 1864* (**LSUP**).

*The Battle of the Wilderness: May 5-6, 1864* by **Gordon C. Rhea** has been published by **Louisiana University Press**.

**Louisiana State University Press** has published **Mark H. Dunkelman's** *Brothers One and All: Esprit de Corps in a Civil War Regiment*.

**The University of Illinois Press** has published a revised edition of *Field Artillery Weapons of the Civil War* by **James C. Hazlett, Edwin Olmstead & M. Hume Parks**.

**Christian G. Samito** edited "*Fear Was Not In Him*" *The Civil War Letters of General Francis C. Barlow, U.S.A.*" for **Fordham University Press**.

*After the Glory: The Struggles of Black Civil War Veterans* by **Donald Shaffer** has been published by the **University Press of Kansas**.

**Evan Cornog** is the author of *The Power and the Story: How the Crafted Presidential Narrative Has Determined Political Success From George Washington to George W. Bush* (**Penguin**).

**John Keegan's** *Intelligence in War: Knowledge of the Enemy from Napoleon to Al-Qaeda* (**Knopf**) includes sections on intelligence gathering and Lincoln's constant search for accurate intelligence during the Civil War, especially during General Jackson's Valley Campaign.

**James C. Hazlett, Edwin Olmstead, and M. Hume Parks** are the authors of the revised edition of *Field Artillery Weapons of the Civil War* (**University of Illinois Press**).

**Pomegranate**, in association with the **Library of Congress** has yet again published *The Civil War* engagement calendar for 2005 and a 2005 wall calendar, *The Civil War*.

**University of Tennessee Press** has published *Shelby Foote and the Art of History: Two Gates to the City* by **James Panabaker** and Volume X, July-December 1845, *The Correspondence of James K. Polk*.

#### Reviews of Lincoln Related Books

**Richard J. Carwardine**, *Lincoln*, rev. by **Michael Riccards**, *The Washington Times* (April 10, 2004).

**Edward S. Cooper**, *Vinnie Ream: An American Sculptor*, rev. by **David H. Donald**, *The New York Review of Books* (May 13, 2004).

**Evan Cornog**, *The Power and the Story: How the Crafted Presidential Narrative Has Determined Political Success From George Washington to George W. Bush*, rev. by **Janet Maslin**, *The New York Times* (July 29, 2004).

**John A. Corry**, *Lincoln at Cooper Union: The Speech That Made Him President*, rev. by **James M. McPherson**, *The New York Review of Books* (August 12, 2004).

**Mario Cuomo**, *Why Lincoln Matters*, rev. by **Ryan Lizza**, *The New York Times Book Review* (July 18, 2004); rev. by **Karl Helicher**, *The Library Journal* (May 15, 2004), rev. by **James M. McPherson**, *The New York Review of Books* (August 12, 2004).

**Thomas J. DiLorenzo**, *The Real Lincoln: A New Look at Abraham Lincoln, His Agenda, and an Unnecessary War*, rev. by **Daniel Feller**, *Reviews in American*

*History* (June 2004); rev. by **Matthew Pinsker**, *Presidential Studies Quarterly* (March 2004).

**Brian R. Dirck**, *Lincoln & Davis: Imagining America*, rev. by **Matthew Pinsker**, *Presidential Studies Quarterly* (March 2004).

**David Herbert Donald**, “We Are Lincoln Men” *Abraham Lincoln and His Friends*, rev. by **James Percoco**, *The Civil War News* (June 2004); rev. by **Robert S. Eckley**, *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association* (Summer 2004).

**Daniel Mark Epstein**, *Lincoln and Whitman*, rev. by **James Swanson**, *Wall Street Journal* (February 12, 2004); rev. by **Mark Dunkleman**, *The Providence Sunday Journal* (February 8, 2004); rev. by **Dyon Stefanon**, *Civil War Times* (April 2004); rev. by **James Percoco**, *The Civil War News* (May 2004); rev. by **Don Ackerman**, *The Rail Splitter* (Winter/Spring 2004); rev. by **Peter Bridges**, *The Washington Times* (February 14, 2004); rev. by **Eric Foner**, *Washington Post* (February 15, 2004)

**Daniel Farber**, *Lincoln’s Constitution*, rev. by **Don Ackerman**, *The Rail Splitter* (Winter/Spring 2004); rev. by **Phillip Shaw Paludan**, *Civil War History* (June 2004).

**Joseph R. Fornieri**, *Abraham Lincoln’s Political Faith*, rev. by **Kent Gramm**, *Journal of Illinois History* (Spring 2004).

**William E. Gienapp**, *Abraham Lincoln and Civil War America: A Biography*, rev. by **Michael S. Green**, *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association* (Summer 2004).

**Allen C. Guelzo**, *Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation: The End of Slavery in America*, rev. by **James M. McPherson**, *The Nation* (June 14, 2004); rev. by **James A. Percoco**, *The Civil War News* (July 2004); rev. by **John Y. Simon**, *North & South* (October 2004).

**William C. Harris**, *Lincoln’s Last Months*, rev. by **James M. McPherson**, *The Nation* (June 14, 2004).

**William G. Harris**, *Lincoln’s Last Month*, rev. by **Allen C. Guelzo**, *The Civil War News* (June 2004).

**Harold Holzer**, *Lincoln at Cooper Union: The Speech That Made Abraham Lincoln President*, rev. by **Mark Dunkelman**, *The Providence Sunday Journal*

(June 20, 2004); rev. by **James M. McPherson**, *The New York Review of Books* (August 12, 2004); rev. by **James A. Percoco**, *The Civil War News* (August 2004); rev. by **Joseph R. Fornieri**, *Lincoln Lore* (Summer 2004); rev. by **Heather Cox Richardson**, *Chicago Tribune* (July 11, 2004); rev. by **Peter Bridges**, *The Washington Times* (May 8, 2004); rev. by **Don Ackerman**, *The Rail Splitter* (Winter/Spring 2004); rev. by **Mario Cuomo**, *New York Post* (May 2, 2004); rev. by **Peter Bridges**, *The Washington Times* (May 2004); rev. by **Frank J. Williams**, *Civil War Book Review* (Summer 2004).

**Harold Holzer**, *The President is Shot! The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln*, rev. by **Allen C. Guelzo**, *The Civil War News* (September 2004).

**Harry V. Jaffa**, *A New Birth of Freedom: Abraham Lincoln and the Coming of the Civil War*, rev. by *The Civil War News* (September 2004).

**Thomas Keneally**, *Abraham Lincoln*, rev. by **Michael S. Green**, *The Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association* (Summer 2004).

**Elizabeth D. Leonard**, *Lincoln's Avengers: Justice, Revenge, and Reunion After the Civil War*, rev. by **James M. McPherson**, *The New York Review of Books* (August 12, 2004); rev. by **Frederick Hatch**, *Journal of the Lincoln Assassination* (August 2004).

**William D. Pederson** and **Frank J. Williams**, Editors, *Franklin D. Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln: Competing Perspectives on Two Great Presidencies*, rev. by **Mackubin Thomas Owens**, *Civil War Book Review* (Summer 2004).

**Geoffrey Perret**, *Lincoln's War – The Untold Story of America's Greatest President as Commander-in-Chief*, rev. by **Don Ackerman**, *The Rail Splitter* (Winter/Spring 2004); rev. by **Max Boot**, *The Wall Street Journal* (May 18, 2004); rev. by **James M. McPherson**, *The Nation* (June 14, 2004); rev. by **William E. Cain**, *Boston Sunday Globe* (May 23, 2004); rev. by **James A. Percoco**, *The Civil War News* (September 2004)..

**James A. Rawley**, *Abraham Lincoln and a Nation Worth Fighting For*, rev. by **Michael S. Green**, *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association* (Summer 2004).

**John Stauffer**, *The Black Hearts of Men: Radical Abolitionists and the Transformation of Race*, rev. by **Michael Vorenberg**, *Reviews in American History* (March 2004).

**Edward Steers, Jr.**, editor, *The Trial: The Assassination of President Lincoln and the Trial of the Conspirators*, rev. by **H. Donald Winkler**, *Journal of Illinois History* (Spring 2004).

**James Tackach**, *Lincoln's Moral Vision: The Second Inaugural Address*, rev. by **Marshall Myers**, *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* (Winter/Spring 2003).

**Wayne C. Temple's** "*The Taste is in My Mouth a Little . . .*": *Lincoln's Victuals and Potables*, rev. by *Lincoln Legal Briefs* (April-June 2004).

**Ronald C. White, Jr.**, *Lincoln's Greatest Speech: The Second Inaugural*, rev. by **Marshall Myers**, *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* (Winter/Spring 2003).

**Carl F. Wieck**, *Lincoln's Quest for Equality: The Road to Gettysburg*, rev. by **Marshall Myers**, *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* (Winter/Spring 2003); rev. by **Dennis K. Bowman**, *Civil War History* (June 2004).

**Frank J. Williams**, *Judging Lincoln*, rev. by **Matthew Pinsker**, *Presidential Studies Quarterly* (March 2004).

## People

The April 16 *Chronicle of Higher Education* contained an interview with **William C. Harris**, author of *Lincoln's Last Months*. Harris believes that Lincoln was not "a very good administrator, . . . He let the department heads carry on, except for the war effort."

**Martin** and **Edith Segal** hosted a reception honoring **Harold Holzer** and his new book *Lincoln At Cooper Union*, at the **Century Association** on May 6. **Richard Leiby** reported in the May 25 *Washington Post* that **Heritage Foundation** staffer **James Swanson** hosted a crowd of 75 at his Capitol Hill home, on May 20 for **Holzer**. **Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton** was present to



celebrate the new book along with Chicago-based actor **Mike Starr** and **Bruce Cole**, **Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities**.

**Deborah H. Fitts** wrote about my appointment to the **Military Commissions Review Panel** for appeals from the tribunals to be held in **Guantanamo Bay** in the May *Civil War News*.

**Gettysburg College** on May 12, announced the appointment of **Allan Guelzo** as the **Associate Director of the Civil War Institute**. He was also appointed the **Henry R. Luce Professor of the Civil War Era** and **Professor of History** at **Gettysburg College**. He will coordinate the college's **Civil War Era Studies** program and direct "The Gettysburg Semester," which brings students from across the country to **Gettysburg College**.

**Wayne C. Temple** was an honored guest at the *U.S.S. Springfield* "Namesake Cruise" Recognition on May 30.

**Dr. Peter S. Carmichael** has resigned as **Director of the President Lincoln and Soldiers Home National Monument**. He will return to teaching. A search is underway for his successor.

**Edward Finch** has been named to succeed the late **Rich Sokup** as President of the **Lincoln-Douglass Society** of Freeport, IL.

With the June issue of *The Civil War Roundtable* newsletter (Chicago), **Barbara Hughett** ended 17 years as its editor.

**Bob Willard** is now the President of **The Abraham Lincoln Institute** and **Paul Pascal** serves as Vice President.

**Burrus Carnahan** is now the president of the **Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia** succeeding **Gordon Leidner**.

**Stephanie Fosnight** discussed **Wayne C. Temple's** latest book, *The Taste is in My Mouth a Little: Lincoln's Victuals and Potables* (**Mayhaven Press**) in the Food section, *Pioneer Press*, on July 1.

Sculptor **Rebecca Childers Caleel** was profiled in the July-August issue of *Illinois Heritage*. Her *Lincoln and Tad* was recently installed at the **Oakbrook Illinois Public Library**.

**Harold Holzer** was interviewed by **Sara Gabbard** for the Summer *Lincoln Lore*.

**Jack Smith**, Lincoln collator of original photographs, lithographs, engravings, etchings, and paintings, and a 1958 journalism graduate from **Bowling Green State University**, was profiled in the Spring issue of *Bowling Green State University Magazine*.

**Richard Norton Smith**, Director of the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**, was interviewed in the August *Springfield Business Journal*.

**Maynard Crossland** is no longer director of **The Illinois Historic Preservation Society**.

Former **Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia** President, **Steve Carson**, now serves as Archivist for this Lincoln group.

### Lincoln in Political Culture

**E.J. Dionne, Jr.** wrote “One Nation Deeply Divided” for the November 7, 2003 *Washington Post*. Bemoaning that, “The red states get redder, the blue states get bluer, and the political map of the United States takes on the coloration of the Civil War,” he believes that “Up in heaven, Abe Lincoln must be shaking his head in astonishment. The country he sought to keep united is pulling apart politically, and largely along the same lines that defined Honest Abe’s election victory in 1860.” Dionne believes that the split in America is regional.

**Joseph Mondello’s** “Bush Isn’t First to use War Imagery in Campaign” was in the March 14 Sunday *Oregonian*. The author points out that **President George W. Bush** is not the first president to come under attack “more from their political opposition than their obvious battlefield foe.” Mondello indicates that “Abraham Lincoln was harshly criticized for his conduct of the Civil War. If it hadn’t been for Gen. William T. Sherman taking Atlanta, then destroying the Georgia countryside on the eve of the presidential election, Lincoln’s prediction that he’d be a one-term office holder would have probably come true.” The author describes how Lincoln’s smudged photo on the Gettysburg battlefield, Churchill walking amid the damaged Westminster Abby and Eisenhower huddled in military earmuffs at a Korean military outpost became political imagery generated by conflict that define these politicians. “In the centuries to follow, Bush’s presidency

will be measured against the actions and reactions from his oval office that came about from 9/11.”

The March 22 *Washington Times* contained **Ann Geracimos’s** “Cross Hairs on History: Specialists, Educators Battle Over Teaching.” The author describes the “Contrarian Group” in teaching Social Studies. The group wants to see more content – factual knowledge, accurate text, and less relativism – in classroom teaching contrary to a majority of the members of **The National Council for Social Studies**.

The April 7 *Washington Post* contained an article by **Monte Reed** (“Lincoln Circle Project Planned to Ease Traffic”) in which reports that a \$12.2 million project will alter the lane configuration on Lincoln circle around **The Lincoln Memorial** with lanes increasing from two to three for those inbound and lanes will be cut from three to two outbound. The east side of the memorial facing the reflecting pool will continue to be closed to vehicles.

**Richard J. Carwardine** wrote “Lincoln Through British Eyes” for the April 14 *Wall Street Journal*. To Carwardine, a fellow Englishman, Lord Charnwood’s *Abraham Lincoln* appeared in 1960, “helped many of his contemporaries . . . admire Lincoln’s single-minded defense of the Union and, even more important, his showing that democracy could work as a philosophy and a political system.” Carwardine does not believe that Lincoln was a passive figure – “Fatalistic, yes; passive, no. We should not take too literally Lincoln’s so-called confession in 1864 ‘that events have controlled me.’ The pre-war Lincoln, who was adept at political management and who brilliantly positioned himself to win his party’s nomination in 1860, and the wartime President . . . suggest an ambitious, enterprising, determined and active figure.”

**Emily Eakin** in “Uncovering an Interracial Literature of Love . . . and Racism” (*The New York Times*, April 17) discussed the hoax perpetrated on Abraham Lincoln in 1863 when two Democrats authored *Miscegenation: The Theory of the Blending of the Races, Applied to the American White Man and Negro* which exhorted the intermarriage of races by arguing that “Science is demonstrated that the intermarriage of diverse races is indispensable to a progressive humanity.” It was an unsuccessful effort by the two journalists at a pro-Democratic newspaper to turn voters against Abraham Lincoln.

In “Every Administration Has Its Naysayers,” (*New York Times*, April 25) **John Tierney** discusses the Bartleby approach, which occurs when an official disagrees with his president, as personified by Herman Melville’s 1853 story,

“Bartleby, the Scrivener.” Bartleby deflects all commands from his boss with the maddeningly calm reply, “I would prefer not to.” The fear of being fired from a mistake made public discourages creative thinking or risk-taking. The risk becomes greater when a policy puts lives at risk. Tierney uses the example of General George B. McClellan, the Union Commander of the Army of the Potomac who had, in the words of President Lincoln, a case of “the slows.” Openly disdainful of Lincoln and his orders to fight, McClellan was relieved of command and went on to run for president in 1864 as the nominee for the Democrats, whose platform called for ending the war. How much can you disagree and stay in the administration? **Michael A. Genovese**, author of *The Power of the American Presidency*, indicates that “Rarely does an issue rise to such heights,” that would force you to resign. “For the most part, the job of an advisor is to bite his lip and carry on until it is no longer possible to carry on.”

Reporting on the death of former Arizona Cardinals safety **Pat Tillman** with the Army Rangers in Afghanistan on April 22, the *New York Times*, on May 2, recalled other athletes who served and died for the United States. One of those was **Nile Kinnick**, an Iowa running back who won the 1939 Heisman Trophy, a Naval aviator who died when his plane went into the sea on a training mission off the aircraft carrier Lexington in June 1943. In a letter to his family on April 25, 1941, Kinnick wrote, “Lincoln was a moral and upright man. He was a pacifist at heart. But when there was no other alternative he did not equivocate nor cravenly talk of peace when there was no peace. He grabbed the bull by the horns; realizing that the nation could not endure half slave and half free, he threw down the gauntlet and eradicated the evil. We are faced with the same thing and the longer we wait the worse it becomes.”

**William Katz** imagines the Select Commission on Gettysburg, as seen on television in his “Lincoln Under Oath,” which appeared in *The New York Sun* on May 6.

Mr. Ben-Gorelick: Good evening, President Lincoln. The Select Commission on Gettysburg thanks you for taking time out from the Civil War to appear.

Lincoln: You’re welcome, sir. I respect the commission.

Mr. B: Before I get to the blunders at Gettysburg, sir, I must ask about the speech you just gave there dedicating the cemetery. This “Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth . . .” Do you have the . . .

Lincoln: I know it.

Mr. B: I call your attention, sir, to paragraph three, where you state, “. . . that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause . . .” do you recall that?

Lincoln: “. . . for which they gave the last full measure of devotion.”

Mr. B: What cause is that, sir?

Lincoln: Why, winning the war.

Mr. B: No, that’s not what I meant. We all want to win the war, and, of course, we honor the troops. But what’s the cause? Let me be clear . . .

Lincoln: I wish you would be.

Mr. B: Mr. Lincoln, you took us to war two years ago and said it was to save the Union.

Lincoln: It still is.

Mr. B: And yet – and I’ll put this text in the record – there’s not a single reference in this speech to saving the Union.

Lincoln: It’s implied.

Mr. B: Not a single reference. Isn’t it a fact that you said in the speech, “dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal?”

Lincoln: Yes, in the first sentence.

Mr. B: And isn’t it a fact that you say, and again I quote, “that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom . . .”?

Lincoln: Yes.

Mr. B: Isn’t it a fact that you were referring to slavery?

Lincoln: Well, yes. But I also said, second paragraph, that they died, quote, “that that nation might live.”

Mr. B: Yes, but what nation, sir? Clearly, your real goal is to abolish slavery. You took us to war under false pretense, didn’t you, sir?

Lincoln: No.

Mr. B: “. . . of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.” Last line of the speech, Mr. President. Nothing about saving the Union. This freedom thing is, perhaps, a kind of obsession with you, isn’t it? Some would say it’s a fever.

Lincoln: There are good reasons for this war.

Mr. B: “I hate slavery,” you said in Peoria, Ill. In 1854, seven years before you became president. This is a crusade. You couldn’t knock off slavery then, so you’re trying it now.

Lincoln: Saving the Union is my main goal.

Mr. B: No, it’s a talking point. Let’s take a break.

\* \* \*

Chris Matthews: This is Chris Matthews, playing “Hardball.” The commission’s on a break. I’m here with the Gettysburg widows – four women

whose husbands died in the battle. Okay, not much time. What'd you think of the president?

Clara: Disgraceful.

Mary: Sickening.

Mr. M: You other two agree?

Elizabeth: Absoslutely.

Mr. M: Why?

Mary: Can I answer, Chris?

Mr. M: Sure, Mary.

Mary: He just sits there and lies. He wears this silly hat. He grows this beard to look presidential . . .

Mr. M: It's all image these days.

Mary: Right. But he ducked the questions. My husband didn't join the Army to fight slavery. He fought for the Union. So Honest Abe, ha, goes to Gettysburg and gives a speech that lasts two minutes. . .

Mr. M: Were you insulted? Elizabeth, quickly.

Elizabeth: Were we? He didn't mention a single soldier.

Ellen: Not one. And like Mr. Ben-Gorelick said, never talked about the Union. You know what else?

Mr. M: I've got 30 seconds.

Ellen: You know where he sat? He didn't sit with the families. He sat between that orator, Edward Everett, who gave a speech, and his flunkie, the secretary of state, William Seward. All cozy, protected by the politicians.

Mr. M: Out of touch.

Mary: Terribly out.

Mr. M: My gut tells me this guy's going down in the 1864 election. Back to the hearings.

\* \* \*

Mr. B: Mr. Lincoln, isn't it a fact that you also said in your speech that the men who died consecrated that cemetery, and I quote, "far above our poor power to add or detract"? Did you use those words, sir?

Lincoln: I did.

Mr. B: Aren't you passing the buck?

Lincoln: Sir?

Mr. B: You're president of America. Isn't it your job to add or detract?

Lincoln: Well, in some matters . . .

Mr. B: Presidents add or detract all the time. Isn't it a fact that Thomas Jefferson added Louisiana, and James Polk added Texas?

Lincoln: It was a spiritual reference.

Mr. B: Like your "under God" phrase?

Lincoln: Yes.

Mr. B: Doesn't that confirm the charge that you're a religious zealot, seeking to impose your views on the nation?

Lincoln: I do think this country exists under God.

Mr. B: You may be in violation of the First Amendment, and might need counsel. I'll consult with my colleagues. We'll take a break.

\* \* \*

Mr. M: Chris Matthews back. More "Hardball." Wow. Gettysburg widows, what'd you think of that?

Clara: I'm scared to death. He thinks he's God.

Elizabeth: It's where he comes from – the sticks out there in Illinois. They're like that.

Mr. M: You believe he's on a religious mission?

Mary: He pretty much admitted it.

Mr. M: You know what I think? Bottom line: It's about Israel.

On June 8 the *Associated Press* reported that a presidential historian **Richard Lawrence Miller** had searched every issue of the weekly *Sangamo Journal* from 1832 to 1842 and found an unsigned poem that matched one described by a friend of Abraham Lincoln's. Miller analyzed "The Suicide's Soliloquy," published in the August 25, 1838 issue and he concluded that the 29-year-old Lincoln was the author. Miller wrote about his find in the Spring 2004 issue of *For the People – the newsletter of the Abraham Lincoln Association*. **Joshua Wolf Shenk** wrote about the find, "Eureka Dept. The Suicide Poem," for the June 14 and 21 *New Yorker*. The poem reads, in part,

Yes! I've resolved the deed to do,  
And this the place to do it:  
This heart I'll rush a dagger through  
Though I in hell should rue it!

\* \* \*

Sweet steel! Come forth from out  
Your sheath,  
And glist'ning, speak your powers;  
Rip up the organs of my breath,  
And draw my blood in showers!

I strike! It quivers in that heart  
Which drives me to this end;  
I draw and kiss the bloody dart,  
My last – my only friend!

Lincoln scholars **Harold Holzer** and **Douglas Wilson** told *The New Yorker* that they believe Lincoln did write it. **David Herbert Donald** said he was not yet convinced.

The death of former President **Ronald Wilson Reagan** on Saturday, June 5, provoked a plethora of articles about him and prior presidential funerals. The June 10 *Washington Post* carried “Two Hundred Years of Presidential Funerals” by **Marylou Tousey** in which she described Abraham Lincoln’s 1865 state funeral. In fact, Tousey reported that more than a dozen funerals were held for Lincoln in the two weeks following his assassination. Perhaps as many as three million people lined the 1,700-mile route of the train that bore his body along with that of his 11-year-old son, Willie, who had died three years earlier, from Washington back to Illinois. Lincoln, the nation’s first murdered president was also the first to have his remains publicly displayed. This allowed open-casket services during the long journey. Even so, an undertaker on the train had to touch up the corpse several times.

In “What Makes a President Great?” (*The Wall Street Journal*, June 10), **James Taranto** reported that in 2000, the **Federalist Society** prepared a new survey for ranking presidents. The Society asked 78 scholars in history, law, and politics to rate the presidents on a 5-point scale. Three presidents made the cut as “Great” – George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The July 5 *News-Gazette* of Champaign, IL reported that Illinois, unlike many other states, does not have a Lincoln County. There was an earlier attempt in 1867 to name parts of Champaign and Vermillion Counties, Lincoln County. The effort failed. Now Blue Island Mayor **Don Pelosin** wants much of southern Cook County to break away to create Lincoln County. Six Illinois counties are named for presidents, although none of them ever set foot in the state. The paper opines that, “One of these centuries, Illinois will get a Lincoln County.”

**Dan Wasserman**’s July 9 cartoon in *The Boston Globe* satirizing the appointment of trial lawyer **John Edwards** as the Democratic candidate for Vice President, featured candidate Abraham Lincoln with a “Vote for Abe” button and a citizen saying, “Nice guy, but I can’t vote for him . . . he’s a trial lawyer!”

On July 10, *The Washington Times* reported that academics and politicians in the **District of Columbia** urged lawmakers there to declare April 16 (**Emancipation Day**) a public Holiday. April 16, 1862 is when Lincoln signed the D.C. Emancipation Act ending slavery in the city. It freed more than 3,000 slaves and came nine months before the Emancipation Proclamation.



**William Safire's** "wordnerd watch" for July 11<sup>th</sup> that appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, recommends *Presidential Voices: Speaking Styles from George Washington to George W. Bush* (**Houghton Mifflin**) in the chapter on "Presidents as Neologists," the author describes words or phrases coined by presidents. Lincoln is credited with "Michigander." Safire points out that the author should have added Lincoln's "That is Cool" in his Cooper Union speech, meaning "ironically desirable." Lincoln was clearly ahead of his time.

**Wesley Pruden**, in the July 13 *Washington Times*, discussed the suggestion that the country ought to consider postponing the November elections because of a threat by Osama bin Laden. In calling this "The dumbest idea of the season," Pruden discusses how Abraham Lincoln declined to call off the presidential elections of 1864 in the midst of civil war.

**Mike Peters**, political cartoonist for the *Dayton Daily News*, depicts two Republicans with one saying, "We Republicans would never vote for a trial lawyer" and in the next illustration has one of them saying to Abraham Lincoln, "Sorry Abe."

**The Republican Party** has produced a large pin featuring Abraham Lincoln and George W. Bush celebrating the "150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Republican Party – 1854, Lincoln; Bush 2004." The Democrats responded with a Lincoln-Kerry button.

On July 21, *The Providence Journal*, the oldest continuously published daily newspaper in America, published a special 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary section, *A Faithful Reporter of the Passing News*. Articles included "Lincoln Focuses on Free Men; Douglas on Free Clams," describing Abraham Lincoln's visit to Providence on February 28, 1860, (the day after his Cooper Union Address), and Stephen A. Douglas's visit to Rocky Point on August 2. On February 29, the day after Lincoln addressed the crowd of Republicans in Providence, the paper printed, "But he does not aim chiefly at fun. He strives rather to show by plain, simple, cogent reasoning that his positions are impregnable, and he carries his audience with him, as he deserves to." On the day of the clambake, which Senator Douglas attended, the *Journal* wrote, "We feel much indebted to [Douglas] for this; and although, as we have already said, we cannot give him our votes, he shall have as many clams as he wants." Also included in this special edition were "Emancipation to Abolition – A Bloody Path," and "Gettysburg: 'Great Turning Point in the History of the Rebellion,' " where the *Journal* printed its appreciation of what President Lincoln said on November 19, 1863, "It is often said that the hardest thing in the world to

do is to make a five minutes' speech. But could the most elaborate and studied oration be more beautiful, more touching, more inspiring, than those few thrilling words of the President?"

The summer catalog of **Caswell-Massey, America's Oldest Chemists and Perfumers**, in a sidebar, indicates that Caswell-Massey were the purveyors of the first slab of castile soap on the eve of Abraham Lincoln's inauguration. "Lincoln was a 17<sup>th</sup> generation direct descendant of the first Caswells in America in 1668." There is a photograph of Lincoln Caswell who looks amazingly like the 16<sup>th</sup> president.

Did President **George W. Bush** force his opponent Senator **John Kerry**, to make a fatal "Freeport doctrine" comment when Bush forced Kerry to answer the question, "If Mr. Kerry knew more than a year ago what he knows today about the failure to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, would he still have voted to authorize the use of military force to oust Saddam Hussein?" Kerry answered that he would have voted for the resolution [authorizing the President to use force in Iraq] – even in the absence of evidence of weapons of mass destruction. **David E. Sanger** wrote about it in the August 12<sup>th</sup> *New York Times*, "For Now, Bush's Mocking Drowns Out Kerry's Nuanced Explanation of His War Vote." At Freeport, the second and most famous of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates on August 27, 1858, Lincoln asked Douglas if the people of a territory could really keep slavery out if, as Douglas had repeatedly affirmed, the Dred Scott decision were valid? Douglas's answer that local police regulations could keep slavery out of a territory, no matter what the Dred Scott decision said about Congress's inability to do so, deeply hurt him in the South.

In this election year and with the presidential debates imminent, **Harold Holzer** in "Debate More, Not Less," which appeared in the August 25 *New York Sun*, describes the granddaddy of all debates, the 1858 Lincoln-Douglas debates, for the U.S. Senate seat in Illinois. There were seven such debates, one in each of Illinois' nine congressional districts. The candidates, Abraham Lincoln and his political nemesis, Stephen Douglas, spoke for 21 hours, unlike the limited debates of today. Holzer suggests that presidential candidates today should follow the Lincoln-Douglas debate format with one speaking for 60 minutes then followed by the opponent for 90 minutes with a 30-minute rebuttal.

**Peter Edidin's** "Is This Thing On?" in the August 29 *New York Times*, discusses oratory at past national political conventions. He describes George William Curtis, who spoke at the 1860 Republican Party's convention at the

**Wigwam** in Chicago suggesting that the party endorse the idea that “All men are created equal.” Delegate Curtis, a well-known writer of the time, delivered an impassioned speech in support of the idea.

“I have to ask this convention . . . whether they are prepared to go upon the record before the country as voting down the words of the Declaration of Independence . . . . I rise simply to ask gentlemen to think well before, upon the free prairies of the West, in the summer of 1860, they dare to wince and quail before the assertion of the men of Philadelphia in 1776 – before they dare to shrink from repeating the words that these great men enunciated.”

At first voted down, the resolution was then adopted.

**Edward Wyatt’s** “Conservatives Cry Fool in Publishing Scrum” (NY Times, September 2), quoted **Brad Miner**, Executive Editor of the conservative book club **American Compass**, citing **Harold Holzer’s** *Lincoln at Cooper Union*. Today’s writers, like Holzer’s description of Lincoln, said Miner, should “feed” the hunger for information and opinion.

### Necrology

**Doug Pokorski**, veteran *Illinois State Journal-Register* reporter who covered Abraham Lincoln in Springfield died suddenly, of a heart attack, on April 30. He was 53. His Lincoln reporting was respected by Lincoln scholars, historians, and academics as fair and objective.

A memorial to the late **Richord Sokup**, who interpreted **Stephen A. Douglas** alongside **George Buss** as Abraham Lincoln, appeared in the Spring *The Stump* – a publication of the **Lincoln-Douglas Society**. Vice President, **George Buss**, presented a tribute to **Rich Sokup**, during the annual dinner of the Lincoln-Douglas Society on August 27. A plaque was placed at **Debate Square** in Freeport, IL to honor “Senator” Sokup who interpreted Senator Stephen A. Douglas with such aplomb.

**Edward Wagenknecht**, editor and biographer died on May 24. He was 104. His many works included an anthology *Abraham Lincoln: His Life, Work, and Character as Shown in Biography, Fiction, Poetry and Drama*.

## Assassination

**John Wilkes Booth Escape Route Tours** were held April 17 & 24, and May 22, and September 11 & 25. Contact **Surratt House**, 301-868-1121 for complete details about these 12-hour bus tours over the route of Lincoln's assassin.

The May *Surratt Courier* contained an article about **J. Summerfield Staples** who served as President Lincoln's substitute in the Civil War. Even though there was a statute exempting the president from serving, there was nothing to prevent the president from sending forth a substitute to fight in his place. But the June issue, **Edward Steers, Jr.** clarified that John Summerfield Staples was not a "substitute" for President Abraham Lincoln, but rather a "Representative Recruit." The President was exempt from the draft and therefore did not need to furnish a substitute. On June 26, 1864, Provost Marshal General, James B. Fry, issued an order that "Persons not required by law to perform military duty have expressed a desire to be personally represented in the Army. In addition to the contributions they have made in the way of bounties, they propose to secure recruits at their own expense and present them for enrollment in the service." So that on Staples's enlistment papers in the **National Archives**, the word "substitute" is crossed out and written above it are the words "Representative Recruit." This issue also contains **Steven G. Miller's** "John Wilkes Booth and the Lincoln Assassination in Recent Fiction."

**Randall Haines's** "Evidence of a Canadian Connection With Confederate Agents in the Lincoln Assassination" was in the July *Surratt Courier*. **Michael W. Kauffman's** "Booth's First Attempt, Revisited" was in the August issue.

"The Trials of John H. Surratt" by **Joseph George, Jr.** was in the Spring *Maryland Historical Magazine*.

**Richard Sloan**, former President of **The Lincoln Group of New York**, provided the following regarding the filming of Lincoln's assassination in **Ford's Theatre** on July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Lincoln's assassination was re-enacted at **Ford's Theatre** on July 11th, for a five-minute **IMAX** film, reportedly for regular screening at the **Smithsonian**. The director, **Erik Courtney**, is a young filmmaker who has worked with Academy Award winning film maker **James Cameron**. It was entirely Mr. Courtney's idea to make this IMAX -filmed re-enactment of the

assassination -- a subject he has been fascinated with for many years. . . of its kind. As the **Park Service** has deemed the Presidential box now "off limits" to film makers, the opposite box was used, identically decorated. Even the engraving of George Washington had to be reproduced backwards, as did copies of the playbill that many extras held. The film will be "flipped" in processing, so that it will appear to be Lincoln's box, on the other side of the stage. (This also meant that sashes, wedding rings, and pocket watch chains had to be worn in reverse. Concession was only made for men's and women's buttons.) Careful attention was paid in order to avoid any anachronisms that would be picked up by the camera -- such as modern eyeglasses, men's earrings, exit signs, etc. (I discovered an anachronism shortly before filming that no one else had spotted during two previous days of rehearsals -- a fire extinguisher!) The action that was filmed --all in one take -- consisted of about a minute and a half worth of dialogue from "Our American Cousin," and ended at a point when the audience started to get a little out of hand and everyone started to panic. (The evening's rehearsals and the six takes lasted from 9 pm to 5:30 the following morning!) A one hour dinner break took place about midnight, next door in the **Hard Rock Cafe**. (It was certainly an odd sight to see men and women in Civil War period garb surrounded by autographed electric guitars and gold records!)

The late **Dr. Richard D. Mudd's** papers are now open at **Georgetown University**, where he donated them.

**C. Wyatt Evans** is the author of *The Legend of John Wilkes Booth: Myth, Memory, and a Mummy* (**University Press of Kansas**).

**Frederick Hatch's** *Journal of the Lincoln Assassination* for August included "Kidnap President Lincoln!" by Hatch and a biography of John Mathews. This issue also reprinted **John S. Bond's** "With Lincoln From Washington to Richmond in 1865" from the May 1907 *Appleton's Magazine*.

Works in Progress

**Ralph Gary** has completed his manuscript *Following in the Footsteps of the Presidents*. **Mayhaven** will publish it.

**Tom Goodrich** has completed a book *The Darkest Dawn – Lincoln, Booth and The Great American Tragedy* (to be published by **Indiana University Press**) on the Lincoln assassination which focuses on the reactions of people around the country.

**CAP** will publish later this year *War Crimes and War Crime Trials: From Leipzig to the ICC and Beyond – Cases, Materials and Comments* by **John C. Watkins, Jr.** and **John Paul Weber**.

**Ellen Jackson** has completed her manuscript for a children's picture book, *Abraham's Animals*.

**Elizabeth Smith Brownstein** is at work on *Abraham Lincoln's Soldiers' Home* which **Wiley Publications** will publish in 2005.

**Rodney O. Davis** has recently finished a new edition of *Herndon's Lincoln* to be published by the **University of Illinois Press**. He is currently at work on *Lincoln's Sword* that will examine Lincoln's presidential writing. **Alfred A. Knoff** will publish.

**Richard Lawrence Miller** is at work on a multi volume account of Lincoln's years in Illinois.

**Ron White's** latest book *The Eloquent President: A Portrait of Lincoln through his Words* will be published by **Random House** in January 2005.

**Bertram Wyatt-Brown** is currently preparing *Lincoln's Assassination and the Undoing of Union Victory*.

#### Author's Note

I want to thank **Harold Holzer, Tom Lapsley, William D. Pederson, John Y. Simon, Dennis E. Stark, Richard Sloan, Joseph Fornieri, Wayne C. Temple, Steve Carson, and David Warren** for providing information for this column. I welcome news concerning Abraham Lincoln. Please contact me at 300 Switch Road, Hope Valley, RI 02823; fax (401) 539-7272; e-mail: [alincoln@courts.state.ri.us](mailto:alincoln@courts.state.ri.us).

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<http://www.lmunet.edu/Museum/index.htm>.

**Frank J. Williams** is a member of the **Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission**. He serves as Chief Justice of the **Supreme Court of the State of Rhode Island** and is author of *Judging Lincoln* (Southern Illinois University Press.) He was recently appointed a member of the **Military Commissions Review Panel** for the tribunals to be held in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.